



MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Lori A. Crouch, Public Relations Manager

COPIES TO: City Clerk, City Attorney

SUBJECT: Council Interests

DATE: December 11, 2015

I hope you all had a nice week. You will find information on several Council Interest items and highlights of the week in today's memo.

Pagoda Garden: Our Urban Forestry crew works regularly with the Pagoda landlord to review park maintenance. Staff will meet with the landlord to determine the needs of the park. Any work will take place during the appropriate time of year – plant removal in February and pruning in late spring.

Granby Street Cleanup: Public Works crews cleaned up both sides of the property located in the 8900 block of Granby Wednesday.

MEAC Tournament hotel rates: As a Norfolk based organization, MEAC has long standing relationships with our hotel community. Earlier this year, MEAC successfully concluded their negotiations with Norfolk hotels participating in the official 2016-2018 MEAC tournament housing program.

Cox Communications Gigablast: Staff contacted Cox Communications regarding their plans for the infrastructure upgrades which will support Gigablast service in our neighborhoods. Staff has also requested information about the availability of Gigablast to residents and businesses. Once we receive the information, we will update you.

Ballistic Vests: The contract for ballistic vests is in the final stages of approval and should wrap up very soon.

Pursuit Policy: Anytime a police pursuit originates in another city and crosses into Norfolk, the outside agency is required to notify us, inform the type of crime and designate a shared radio communications channel. Norfolk Police may assist if the originating department requests help.

Verizon FIOS: Staff has reach out to Verizon to set up a meeting with city administration to discuss FIOS and other emerging technology for high speed data and cable that Verizon is currently exploring.

Verizon's goal with FIOS was to reach 18 million homes nationally. They were actively engaged in negotiations with several cities nationwide and in Virginia to bring FIOS to communities. When they reached the 18 million milestone in 2010, they ceased discussions on new installations and expansion into several cities including Norfolk, Alexandria, Falls Church, as well as Baltimore (city), Minneapolis, and Los Angeles. Nationally, although FIOS reaches 18 million homes, a vast majority of U.S. cities don't have FIOS available to them (see attached maps). In the cities where FIOS is offered, availability does not extend to all locations. For example, New York City has FIOS, but it is not available in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

Staff received notification via phone and e-mail from Verizon external affairs and/or engineering in 2010, 2012, 2013, and Wednesday (this week) that they have no plans to resume discussions with cities to expand FIOS at this time. Staff will follow-up on the meeting date and time with Verizon.

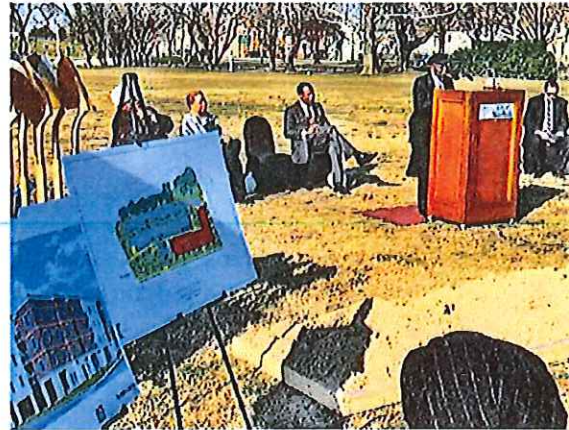
Street Lights: Staff provided the street light outages on West Government Avenue to Dominion Power. The outages on private property are the responsibility of the property owner to report. Private property owners are required to report outages to Dominion.

Water Meter Exchange: Utilities crews exchange more than 12,000 water meters annually. Prior to exchanging a water meter, crews knock on the homeowner's door in order to notify them. The exchange process takes no more than 20 minutes and during that time the water to the property is off. When a resident requests an exchange, they are notified the exchange will take place in the coming days.

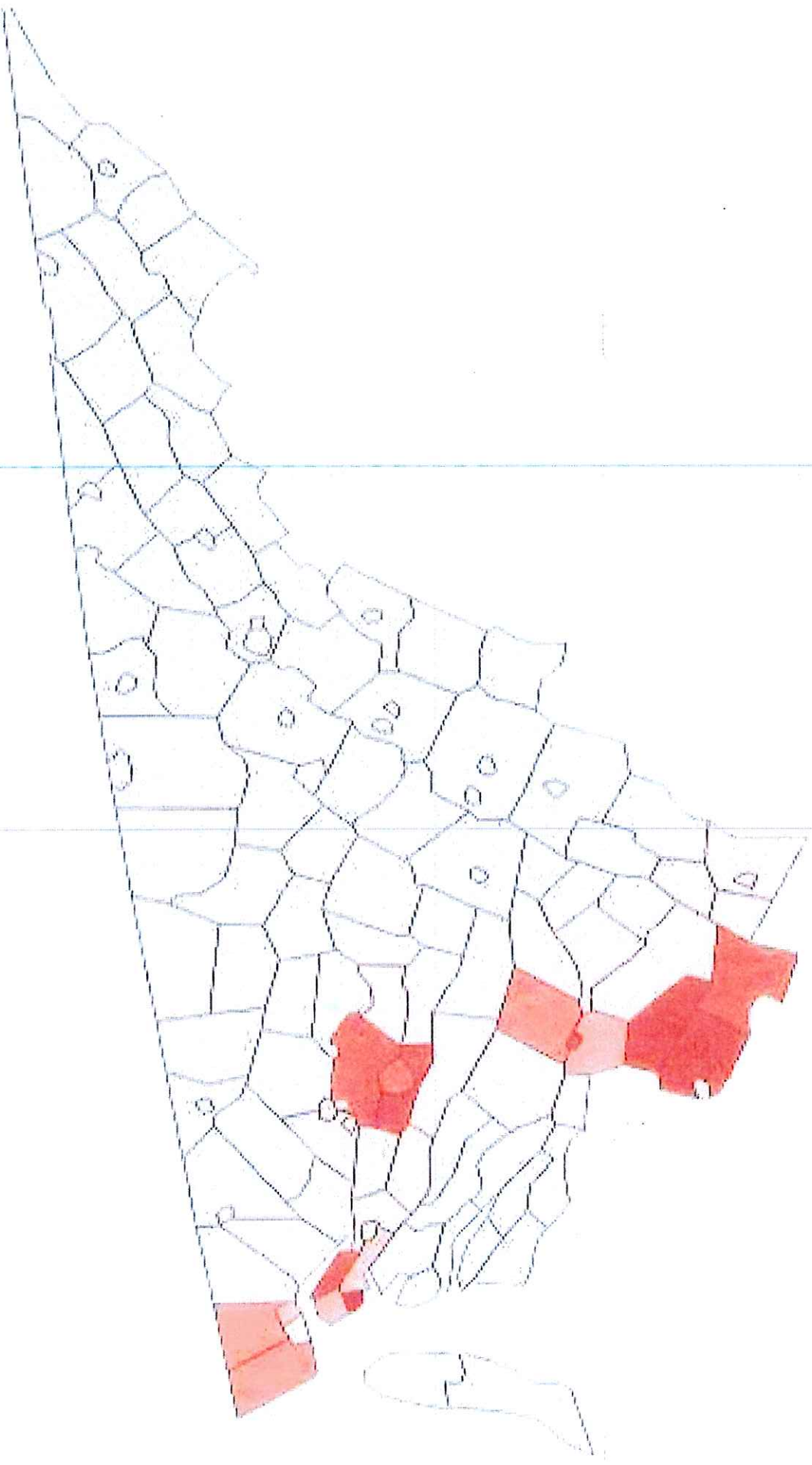
Youth in Government: City staff welcomed nearly 100 middle and high school students from home school programs, public and private schools today to learn more about city government.



The Banks at Berkley: The Berkley community joined many of you today to break ground on a new residential community honoring lifelong resident, Mr. George Banks.



VERIZON FIOS AVAILABILITY & COVERAGE MAP



U.S. FIOS Coverage Areas

